

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q66292

Takahiro NAKA

Appln. No.: 09/955,048

Group Art Unit: 2166

NOV 2 6 2002

Confirmation No.: 8499 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Technology Center 2600

Filed: September 19, 2001

For: OPTIONAL PART FOR APPARATUS, APPARATUS HAVING OPTIONAL PART,

ACCESS DEVICE, METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING OPTIONAL PART AND INK

CARTRIDGE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

RECENTATION NOV 1 4 2002
GROUP

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/955,048

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q66292

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement

can be made, a Statement is submitted herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for

foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a

foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an

English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication

indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 23,063

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Date: November 8, 2002

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* 2166 #7

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: November 8, 2002

Darryl Mexic

Registration No. 23,063

	Complete if Known			
Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO	Application Number	09/955,048		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Confirmation Number	8499		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Filing Date	September 19, 2001		
15 1	First Named Inventor	Takahiro NAKA		
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Art Unit	2166	_	
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State 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	O66292		

TRADE U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Fatence of Applicant of Cited Documen	
		US 5,771,143		6/23/1998	Vernois	
		US			BEOF	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Translation ⁶	
	_	Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	1 ransiation
		FR	2 744 391		2/1/1996		
		FR	0 639 755		6/1/1990		
		EP	0 985 537	A1	3/15/2000	Seiko Epson Corporation	
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		EP	1 004 447	A2	5/31/2000	Seiko Epson Corporation	
						RECEI	V€D
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						Technology Cer	iter 2600

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Japanese Abstract No. 10154180, dated June 9, 1998	Abstract
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Examiner Signature	Da	ate Considered

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.